(c) whether Government are having proposals to have Central body for Vocational Education Training like University Grants Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development does not maintain data on scarcity or otherwise of trained plumbers, carpenters and motor mechanics of metros and sub-urban areas. Training is being imparted in these trades through the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres spread over the country. Such vocational courses are also available in the vocational stream of the higher secondary stage in several institutions.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

IT professionals going to Japan

28. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of young Indian IT professionals going to Japan are increasing;

(b) whether Government are aware that a sound knowledge in Japanese language is a must for those IT professionals leaving for Japan;

(c) whether Government propose to impart Japanese language skills to higher secondary level students in the country; and

(d) if so, the proposals with Government with the financial allocation earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) With globalization, a large number of IT professionals are going abroad including Japan. However, data on Indian IT professionals going abroad is not maintained centrally. A good knowledge of Japanese language is desirable for IT professionals leaving for Japan. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced Japanese language as an optional subject. In addition, Japan foundation has been promoting Japanese language in India.